



HAND DELIVERED April 24, 2003

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Ruben et al.

Application Serial No.: 09/813,153

Filed: March 21, 2001

For: **Protein HCE5F43**
(as amended)

Art Unit: 1631

Examiner: Martinell, J.

Attorney Docket No.: PZ023P1C1

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND PROVISIONAL ELECTION
WITH TRAVERSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated March 24, 2003 (Paper No. 5), please consider the following amendments, traversal, provisional election, and remarks. Applicants submit concurrently herewith: (a) a Fee Transmittal Sheet (in duplicate) and (b) an Information Disclosure Statement Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 with a Form PTO/SB/08A and copy of reference **AA**.

Prior to examining the captioned application, Applicants respectfully request the entry of the following amendments.

04/25/2003 NMDHAMH1 00000019 083425 09813153

01 FC:1202 306.00 CH
02 FC:1201 252.00 CH